

LEXICOGRAPHICAL AND LEXICOLOGICAL PROJECTS

- conceptual equivalence
- pragmatic contrast
- variant status
- lexicalization status

Before entering into details for each of these parameters separately, a general remark may be in order: a useful view on the layout of the LU and the presentation of the components to be filled in by the lexicographer is that the LU has three different aspects:

- the monolingual information it contains
- the EUs (or combinations) it contains, with all there is to say about them
- the link it has to another unit in another language (LU or EU)

The different parameters used in this linking process can be characterized and illustrated as follows:

Conceptual equivalence

If *x* is translated as *y*, it is also necessary to specify whether or not the conceptual equivalence between *x* and *y* is complete. If it is incomplete, there are several sub-categories of 'non' or 'partial equivalence' which may be relevant; for instance that *y* is a hyperonym of *x*, or that *y* is a hyponym of *x*. In such cases, reversal of the translation relation $x \rightarrow y$ is permitted, but additional information is needed about the semantic restrictions/specifications of *x* or *y*. For example, the French words *fleuve* and *rivière* can both be translated into English by the hyperonym *river*; in the reversal, however, additional information is needed, so that *river* is translated as *fleuve* if the water flows into sea, and as *rivière* if it does not. At the moment OMBI distinguishes between the following values for this feature (conceptual equivalence):

- complete equivalence (i.e. there is complete conceptual equivalence between SLU and TLU)
- hyperonym (i.e. the TLU is a hyperonym of the SLU)
- hyponym (i.e. the TLU(s) is/are (a) hyponym(s) of the SLU)
- substitution by near equivalent
- related (e.g. the English series *shine*, *glimmer*, *glister*, *glow*, *glitter* etc. shows different degrees of overlap and partial equivalence with the Dutch 'counterparts' *schijnen*, *schitteren*, *flikkeren*, *glimmen*, *glinsteren*, *flonkeren*, etc.) (see Martin e.a. 1992)